

MaxLite Lamp-Ready Fixtures Brighten Auction Barn at Armada Fair



CASE STUDY



“The lighting retrofit in the 4H Barn exceeded our expectations. We reduced our energy use, and most importantly, increased our light levels. You wouldn’t think that lighting would make such a difference, but it updated/changed the whole space! We continue to retrofit other buildings on the property with the same fixture.”

**- Dean Reinhardt
Board Member, Armada Agricultural Society**

Founded in 1872, the annual Armada Fair is one of Michigan’s must-see events. Attracting more than 65,000 people each August, the weeklong festivities include live music, motorsports, carnival rides and a popular livestock auction. The Armada Agricultural Society, which operates the fair, needed to increase light levels and reduce maintenance costs in Barn 15, which houses the cattle, sheep, pigs and goats showcased and sold during the auction that benefits the 4-H.

The incumbent lighting consisted of 77 linear fixtures, each employing a pair of 110-watt T12 high output fluorescent tubes. Foot-candle readings in the barn varied between 12-14fc, with some areas receiving even less light. The poor illumination made it difficult for bidders to read their programs and evaluate the livestock, and the fluorescent fixtures were labor-intensive and costly to maintain. Seeking a high output solution that would be both cost- and energy-efficient, the Society worked with regional MaxLite distributor Green Electrical Supply and independent representative agency Premier-Spectrum Sales Group to retrofit the barn with MaxLite Lamp-Ready Vapor Tight Fixtures and 18-watt LED T8 Lamps. Receiving a sample of the MaxLite product and a complimentary lighting layout played a key part in the board’s decision-making process.

“Seeing is believing, as they say,” noted Julie Hill of Green Electrical Supply. “The Armada Agricultural Society board members appreciated being able to see what they would be installing. I also have to acknowledge MaxLite for providing lighting layouts for Barn 15 and other fairground buildings. Both of these resources played a major part in securing several projects on the site!”

A total of 154 MaxLite Lamp-Ready fixtures were installed throughout the 15,000 sq. ft. barn. The contractor-ready series comes pre-wired for single-ended operating T8 lamps, providing installers with a UL listed fixture. Each 4-foot fixture was equipped with three 18-watt integral driver T8 lamps that have an output of 2,200 lumens, which boosted illumination levels to 32-38fc throughout the facility. During the weeklong fair, the lights operate approximately 16 hours per day, but energy usage is far less consistent during the off-season as the barn is re-purposed for storage or party rentals.

For the Armada Agricultural Society, the biggest cost-saving benefit of the retrofit project, which was completed in the fall of 2016, is the longevity of the new LED lighting. MaxLite T8 lamps are rated to 50,000 hours of lumen maintenance at L73 standards, translating into decades of maintenance-free illumination.



MaxLite
MaxLite has been committed to providing energy-efficient lighting products since 1993. One of the first movers into LED technology in the industry, MaxLite offers an extensive line of quality, certified indoor and outdoor LED lamps and luminaires. A five-time recipient of the ENERGY STAR Partner of the Year Award for its industry leadership, MaxLite continues to be at the forefront of energy-efficient technologies through the innovative research and development capabilities of its teams and facilities in New Jersey, California, and Indiana.

